



Invites you to the

# **Afghanistan Trade and Investment Conference**

With guests of honour:

**His Excellency Hamid Karzai**  
**President of The Islamic Republic of Afghanistan**

**&**

**VVIP attendees (TBC) from:**  
**Islamic Republic of Afghanistan Government,**  
**Her Majesty's Government,**  
**US Government and**  
**The Afghanistan Investment Support Agency**

By kind invitation of



**Date: Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> January 2006**

**Time: 8.30 AM for 8.45 AM – 14.00 PM**

**Venue: Asia House, 63 New Cavendish Street, London, W1G 7LP**

**Nearest tube: Oxford Circus / Regent's Park**

Asia House is proud to welcome His Excellency Hamid Karzai, President of The Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, to speak at a conference on trade and investment. We are working on this event in close cooperation with the Afghan Government, Her Majesty's Government, and the US Government.

This conference will provide a unique insight into Afghanistan's current political and economic climate. It is an opportunity to demonstrate private sector commitment by advancing trade and investment, supporting reconstruction, economic development, and investment that will help train and build the skills of the Afghan people. Building on the momentum of the political progress made over the last few years, 2006 is expected to deliver a breakthrough for the country's

reconstruction efforts, with the government's announcement of a new interim development strategy and the international community's long-term pledge to the region.

With distinguished speakers including President Karzai, US Undersecretary for Economic and Business Affairs Josette Shiner, other senior ministers, the Afghanistan Investment Support Agency, and a selected business delegation from Afghanistan, this important event at Asia House will present the exciting trade and investment opportunities arising from Afghanistan's increasing political stability, accelerated growth and development.

Asia House's business focused conference will be aligned with the high-profile *London Conference on Afghanistan*, to be held on 31st January 2006 – 1st February 2006. This major political conference is co-chaired by the governments of Afghanistan, the UK, and also the United Nations and will be attended by dignitaries including President Karzai, Prime Minister Tony Blair and Secretary-General Kofi Annan. A delegation involving senior ministers from 59 countries will engage in high-level talks focusing on the Afghan government's strategies for accelerated development, increasing security within the region, tackling the drugs trade, and strengthening governance.

The conference will climax with the signing of the *Afghanistan Compact* that establishes the international community's engagement in Afghanistan for the next five years. As the successor to the Bonn Agreement of 2001, the *Afghanistan Compact* will set out benchmarks and mutual obligations and determine the necessary framework for cooperation between Afghanistan and the international community to ensure greater coherence of efforts.

For further information visit <http://www.afghanistanconference.gov.uk> .

**Asia House's Afghanistan Trade and Investment Conference is a focused and determined effort to engage the international business community and present the facts.** It is expected that an important and meaningful dialogue will result and positive, accountable outcomes realised in the future. The result of these collaborative efforts will pave the way towards a myriad of opportunities for UK business and a vibrant economic landscape for Afghanistan.

Following this signature event in London a roadshow will commence organised by the Afghan Investment Support Agency to visit other European cities and explain the investment and trade opportunities available in Afghanistan.

**Spaces are limited therefore please register promptly your interest to attend this conference to Natasha Aziz at Asia House, [natasha.aziz@asiahouse.co.uk](mailto:natasha.aziz@asiahouse.co.uk).**

I look forward to seeing you there.

Stefan Kosciuszko  
Chief Executive  
Asia House